



NEWS RELEASE

Congressman Walter B. Jones

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JONES URGES AN END TO AMNESTY NEGOTIATIONS WITH MEXICO

In a letter to the Secretary of State and Secretary of Homeland Security, Jones joins other members in discouraging the legalization of illegal aliens

Washington, D.C.- Third District Representative Walter B. Jones urged the Bush Administration to not reward illegal Mexican nationals living in the United States with legalized status.

In a letter yesterday to Secretary of State Colin Powell and Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge, Jones joined 21 other co-signers in asking the Administration to stop amnesty negotiations with Mexico. The letter was sent in response to Secretary Powell's and Secretary Ridge's recent trip to Mexico to discuss amnesty proposals.

"It is our hope that in future discussions with the Mexican government, you will encourage Mexico to do its part to address illegal immigration rather than encourage their citizens to illegally enter the U.S.," the letter reads. "Cooperation with our close neighbor Mexico is essential, but we also feel that Mexico must respect our sovereignty and our laws, and should encourage its citizens to do the same."

"Since the last amnesty in 1986, the illegal population in the United States has more than doubled," Jones said. "Amnesty is clearly a policy that is destined to fail. This nation is a nation of immigrants, and that is what makes us so great. But it is essential that immigrants come here legally by following the laws of the land."

In addition to Jones, others to sign the letter include: Lamar Smith of Texas, John Hostettler of Indiana, John Culberson of Texas, Charlie Norwood of Georgia, Sue Myrick of North Carolina, Ed Royce of California, Gary Miller of California, Nathan Deal of Georgia, Tom Tancredo of Colorado, Sam Johnson of Texas, John Duncan of Tennessee, Dana Rohrabacher of California, Roscoe Bartlett of Maryland, Kevin Brady of Texas, Robert Aderholt of Alabama, Charles Pickering of Mississippi, John Sullivan of Oklahoma, J. Gresham Barrett of South Carolina, Barbara Cubin of Wyoming, Steve King of Iowa and Elton Gallegly of California.

For additional information or to schedule an interview with Congressman Walter B. Jones please contact Kristen Quigley at (202) 225-3415.